

IowaAccess Citizen Council  
Meeting Summary ♦ June 26, 1997  
Des Moines Botanical Center ♦ Des Moines, Iowa

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Members Attending

Carol French Johnson, Chair  
Jackie Aguilera  
Greg Anliker  
Mary Rose Brown  
Brandon Burnett  
Tom Claypool  
Katherine Curran  
Daryl Gray  
Diane Kolmer  
Dan Offenburger  
Marvin Shirley  
Abbi Swanson  
Bill Yeager

Guest

Stan Kuhn, Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Iowa Technology Services (ITS) Staff

Jim Youngblood  
Linda Plazak

State Public Policy Group (SPPG) Staff

Arlinda McKeen  
Tom Slater  
Tori Squires

**Overview of IowaAccess Initiative**

Jim Youngblood reviewed the role of Iowa Technology Services (ITS) and the relationship with the Intergovernmental Telecommunications and Technology Task Force. ITS is made up of a number of state agency entities and is now a division of the Iowa Department of General Services. ITS reports to the governor and maintains a level of autonomy.

Youngblood reviewed the role of the Citizen Council and stressed the importance of the Council in the process. He also explained the goals of the IowaAccess initiative. He reminded them that this effort is ultimately for the benefit of Iowa citizens and the

Council represents the citizen perspective. Youngblood also noted that this effort also includes the private sector and intergovernmental agencies.

Linda Plazak reviewed all 14 lowAccess projects and the overall structure for the projects and initiative. A part of this effort is determining a “platform” to link all projects together. She also explained the platform from the citizen perspective and diagrammed the path a citizen will take to access information and services on the Citizen Information Network.

It was noted that lowAccess is not an ICN driven technology project. French Johnson noted that it is the Internet and world wide web that will be the mechanism for sending information. It was further noted that government services will be the focus of the projects.

## **Primary Roles of the Council**

French Johnson reviewed the roles the Council will have during this process.

*Public Education* - The Council will assist in educating the public about the lowAccess effort and the 14 projects.

*Citizens' Access* - The Council will help ensure that ALL citizens will have access to the information that will come as a result of this process.

*Privacy and Security* - The Council will ensure that all issues regarding privacy and security of citizen information will be addressed.

*lowAccess Project Review* - The Council will review each project plan, budget, and work plan to ensure that each project team is addressing issues of privacy, security, and access. The Council will also provide ongoing review and advice on project progress.

## **Organization Structure of the Citizens Council**

The Council discussed how often they would meet. French Johnson explained all the possibilities for meeting together and providing comments on the projects. It was determined that comments on projects will be submitted to French Johnson or lowAccess staff by Thursday, July 17, and will be used to provide direction to the projects teams.

The next Council meeting will be held September 19 and ICN sites will be provided.

## **Mission and Goals**

Staff reviewed the Mission of lowAccess Project and the lowAccess Steering Committee. The Council then reviewed the Citizen Council Mission and Goals. After discussion the following Mission and Goals were determined:

### *Mission*

To provide a citizen perspective on issues and uses of technology to ensure government meets the needs of lowans

### *Goals*

- ❖ To make the public aware of how technology can be used to interact with government
- ❖ Provide feedback to government on the technology needs of lowans on current and future government services
- ❖ To lead public education efforts in lowAccess government technology projects
- ❖ To provide a means for the public to communicate with government regarding the lowAccess initiative
- ◆ To understand lowAccess projects in order to provide citizen views regarding project accessibility, evaluation, privacy and security

### **Project Review Process**

French Johnson asked the Council what kind of information they wanted from the projects, what was the best way for them to receive the information, and how best to provide their comments back to the projects.

It was decided that project leads may be asked to attend Council meetings so the group can ask specific questions and benefit from presentations. It was noted that some projects may be of more interest to the Council as they review issues related to privacy and confidentiality.

**Each Council member was asked to review each project plan by July 17 and provide feedback to lowAccess staff in the manner they feel most comfortable. Staff will also provide a two-page summary of each project to the Council.**

In closing, French Johnson asked Council members if they were willing to answer questions other Council members who were not present today may have about today's proceedings. The Council agreed to this. This information will be forwarded by staff to the full Council.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.